

# Albania

## Global Youth Tobacco Survey (GYTS)

### FACT SHEET . . . . .



The Albania GYTS includes data on prevalence of cigarette and other tobacco use as well as information on five determinants of tobacco use: access/availability and price, environmental tobacco smoke exposure (ETS), cessation, media and advertising, and school curriculum. These determinants are components Albania could include in a comprehensive tobacco control program. The Albania GYTS was a school-based survey of students in grades 1, 2, 7 & 8 conducted in 2003.

A two-stage cluster sample design was used to produce representative data for all of Albania. At the first stage, schools were selected with probability proportional to enrollment size. At the second stage, classes were randomly selected and all students in selected classes were eligible to participate. The school response rate was 100%, the student response rate was 92.02%, and the overall response rate was 92.02%. A total of 1,942 students participated in the Albania GYTS.

#### Prevalence

37.1% of students had ever smoked cigarettes (Boys = 41.3%, Girls = 32.3%)  
 16.8% currently use any tobacco product (Boys = 21.9%, Girls = 12.5%)  
 12.0% currently smoke cigarettes (Boys = 15.8%, Girls = 8.8%)  
 1.7% currently daily cigarette smokers (Boys = 2.9%, Girls = 0.6%)  
 7.0% currently smoke cigars (Boys = 9.3%, Girls = 5.2%)  
 25.3% ever smokers initiated smoking before age ten (Boys = 32.4%, Girls = 15.9%)  
 16.7% of never smokers are likely to initiate smoking next year (Boys = 18.6%, Girls = 15.0%)

#### Access and Availability - Current Smokers

51.1% buy cigarettes in a store  
 85.0% who bought cigarettes in a store were NOT refused purchase because of their age

#### Environmental Tobacco Smoke

85.1% live in homes where others smoke in their presence  
 82.7% are around others who smoke in places outside their home  
 92.6% think smoking should be banned from public places  
 61.8% think smoke from others is harmful to them  
 46.1% have one or more parents who smoke  
 5.3% have most or all friends who smoke

#### Cessation - Current Smokers

68.4% want to stop smoking  
 81.5% tried to stop smoking during the past year  
 72.6% have ever received help to stop smoking  
 2.6% always have or feel like having a cigarette first thing in the morning

#### Media and Advertising

75.8% saw anti-smoking media messages vs. 78.6% saw pro media messages on TV  
 67.3% saw anti messages vs. 82.3% saw pro messages on billboards  
 59.2% saw anti smoking ads vs. 74.7% saw pro-cigarette ads in newspapers or magazines  
 23.6% have an object with a cigarette brand logo  
 16.3% were offered free cigarettes by a tobacco company representative

#### School

61.9% had been taught in class, during the past year, about the dangers of smoking  
 46.7% had discussed in class, during the past year, reasons why people their age smoke  
 52.5% had been taught in class, during the past year, the effects of tobacco use

#### Highlights

- 16.8% of students currently use any form of tobacco; 12% currently smoke cigarettes; 1.7% current daily smokers; 7% currently smoke cigars; 16.7% never smokers likely to initiate smoking next year.
- ETS exposure is very high –over 8 in 10 students live in homes where others smoke in their presence; over 9 in 10 are exposed to smoke in public places; almost half of the students have parents who smoke.
- Over 6 in 10 students think smoke from others is harmful to them.
- Over 9 in 10 students think smoking in public places should be banned.
- Almost 7 in 10 smokers want to quit.
- Over 7 in 10 students saw anti-smoking messages on TV vs. Almost 8 in 10 saw pro messages; Over 6 in 10 saw anti messages on billboards vs. over 8 in 10 saw pro messages; almost 6 in 10 saw anti ads in newspapers vs. over 7 in 10 saw pro ads.
- Only 6 in 10 students are taught in school about dangers of smoking.